

A long time ago Indian tribes lived on the land. Some lived where you are right now. North America has many Indian tales. One is about the Indian feast.

Many Indian tribes wanted to rule the land. Two of the North American tribes were the most powerful. One was the Eagle Tribe. The other was the Bear Tribe. They fought each other often. They tried to capture people to become slaves for their tribe.

During a battle, Old Chief Bear was killed. The Eagle tribe captured his son, Young Chief Bear. They made him a slave to the Young Chief Eagle.

Young Chief Bear did not have much to eat. Some people would throw him scraps of food. He lived in a small hut with the dogs of the tribe. He worked every day and often into the night.

Sometimes Young Chief Bear would peer into the teepee of Young Chief Eagle. He saw many robes and furs. He saw the young chief eat great meals of venison and corn. Young Chief Bear wished for good food. He wished for furs in which to sleep at night. Most of all, he wished to be home with his own tribe where he could have all of these things.

One night, the Bear Tribe attacked the Eagle Tribe. Young Chief Bear was rescued. He was so happy to be with his own tribe again. His teepee was filled with robes, furs, and feathers, and he ate hearty meals with his friends. Then he saw Young Chief Eagle. He was tied to a tree. The elders said that he would be Chief Bear's new slave.

Chief Bear thought about it. He remembered being hungry. He remembered that Chief Eagle had made him work. But he also knew that Chief Eagle had not been cruel.

"I do not want him to be my slave," Chief Bear said. "Do what you wish, but you must answer this question. What made us begin this war with the Eagle Tribe?"

No one could remember why they had started fighting. Chief Bear smiled and said, "Let us have a feast of goodwill. We will invite the Eagle Tribe. They will be our friends."

The tribes ate a big feast and were friends.

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